Combining a comprehensive treatment of both embryogenesis and organ development in one reference work, this is the first handbook to be structured according to organ systems. It addresses the functions of all signaling pathways and growth factors important for the development of the embryo and the adult. With its focus on vertebrates, this volume provides a current overview of the molecular communication regulating such processes as cell division, migration, and differentiation. Additionally, sections on developmental disorders and related novel therapeutic strategies highlight applications in molecular medicine.

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